



"TRUTH ABOVE ALL"

Vol. 8 No. 6

PHILIPPINE Mabuhay News

San Diego's Premiere Filipino-American Newspaper

January 1-15, 2004

PSST STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
National City, CA
Permit No. 364

Filner asks Schwarzenegger not to cut benefits for Fil-Am vets

Congressman Bob Filner asked California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to reverse his position on cutting benefits for Filipino World War II veterans. The Governor has indicated that he would like to eliminate the California State Supplementary Program – a program that allows Filipino veterans to keep their benefits when they return to their homeland.

"The participation of Filipino soldiers in World War II was instrumental in slowing down the enemy," said Congressman Filner. "We should be honoring these noble veterans and opening doors for them, not making it more difficult for them to return home!"

In a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger, Congressman Filner noted that enabling Filipino veterans to return home may actually save the state money – because once they have returned to the Philippines, the veterans may no longer receive benefits such as Medi-Cal.

"If we cut off all their benefits, many of them simply cannot afford to go home to be with their families," said Congressman Filner. "But if we allow them to continue receiving their veterans benefits, this gives them the flexibility they need."

Congressman Filner is currently the second most senior Democrat on the House Veterans Committee.